road connectivity are planned to be taken up over the period upto 2011-12 with a view to augmenting the capacity of the ports to 800.41 million tonnes per annum (MTPA). The total investment envisaged under the programme is Rs. 55,804 crores.

National Highways in Tripura

1751. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the proposals for undertaking the construction of new roads as National Highways by the States of NER;

(b) the names of the projects proposed by the State of Tripura; and

(c) Government's decision in regard to the proposals from the States of North Eastern Region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) to (c) Presumably the Hon'ble Member is referring to the proposals for declaring existing state roads as National Highways. Eight proposals from the North-Eastern States have been received after 25.2.2004 for declaring existing state roads as National Highways in these states. This includes the proposal of Government of Tripura to declare the Kukital to Sabroom via Dharmanagar-Amarpur, Rupaichari Road as a National Highway. At present, there is no proposal for declaring more roads as National Highways in the country including North Eastern Region, since priority is given for development of existing National Highways.

Interaction between ISRO and foreign based organisations

1752. SHRIMATI MOHSINHA KIDWAI:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ISRO has built a good number of satellite for weather, earth imaging, telecommunication, broadcasting, etc., for well-known Indian Corporate Houses;

(b) with the R&D efforts being speeded up during the last decade or so, is ISRO getting some similar orders from famous space organizations; and

(c) whether the similar expertise exists in Europe, US space organizations, and whether there are arrangements for interaction between ISRO and other foreign based organizations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) ISRO has built a number of satellites for weather, earth imaging, telecommunication, broadcasting, etc. which are extensively used by national agencies. A part of the capacity relating to telecommunication and broadcasting is being leased to Indian Corporate Houses on commercial basis.

(b) Yes, Sir. ISRO, through its commercial arm ANTRIX Corporation, has bagged commercial contracts to build two communication satellites for European customers.

(c) European and US aerospace industries have expertise to build commercial satellites. Ahtrix Corporation, the commercial arm of ISRO, has entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with EADS Astrium—a leading global satellite manufacturer based in Europe-to jointly manufacture and market communication satellites for the global market.

Space Odyssey

1753. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the PRIME MINSTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has planned a space odysey by placing a man on the moon in 2008;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it will be an indigenous venture or foreign collaborated effort;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the amount of money involved in this venture and the benefits expected to be derived therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) There is no proposal for placing a man on the moon in 2008. However, it is planned to launch an instrumented spacecraft—Chandrayaan-1 in the year 2008 to orbit around the Moon. The approved cost of this mission is Rs 386 crores. The objectives of this indigenous mission include high resolution imaging of

lunar terrain and mapping of various chemicals and mineralogical constituents over its surface.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Percentage of ISRO Budget

1754. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ISRO is planning a reusable launch vehicle, which will speed into space like a rocket but will return to runway like an aircraft;

(b) if so, whether the technology on which, if designed, result in substantial cost reduction;

(c) whether the capability been developed on the basis of R&D efforts in vogue in the ISRO; and

(d) the percentage of ISRO budget that is being spent on R&D and does it require any augmentation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. As a first step towards realisation of resuable Launch Vehicle, a number of investigative and flight demonstration studies in the areas of re-entry and recovery of space modules, air-breathing propulsion and winged body hypersonic flight technology demonstration missions have been taken up.

(b) Yes, Sir. Use of Reusable Launch Vehicles in the future is expected to substantially reduce the cost of access to space.

(c) This reusable technology is being developed through indigenous efforts.

(d) 70% of ISRO budget is spent on R&D. ISRO augments its R&D spending through annual plans based upon its programmatic targets.

Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission

†1755. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the objective of announcing Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) and the ways of achieving its objectives;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the prescribed area of operation of this mission and the ways of obtaining funds; and

(c) the duration of the mission and by when it is proposed to be given concrete shape together with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (c) The Government of India has launched Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) on 3rd December, 2005 to implement reforms driven, fast track planned development of identified cities with focus on efficiency in urban infrastructure/ service delivery mechanism, community participation and accountability of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)/parastatals towards citizens. The primary objective is to bring about focused attention to integrated development of infrastructural services in 63 cities covered under the Mission. The Mission period is 7 years. The Government of India has committed Rs. 50,000 crore for the mission. Besides, the states and the implementing urban local bodies/ parastatals are required to contribute their proportionate share as fixed in the JNNURM. On the strength of the Central releases to the ULBs, the ULBs are expected to leverage further funds from the market.

Mumbai sewage disposal project

1756. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra have submitted a proposal for World Bank loan for Mumbai Sewage Disposal Project-Stage-ll and Slum Sanitation Programme-Stage-ll (SSP-II) in Mumbai, of so, the details of the project, and the World Bank loan sought;

(b) when the proposal was sent, the terms of the loan;

(c) whether the proposal has since been sponsored by Government, if not, the reasons for the delay; and

(d) the process to be adopted for disposal of sewage and the products and by products to be obtained thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (c) Yes Sir, Government of Maharashtra have submitted a proposal for World Bank loan for Mumbai Sewage Disposal Project Stage-ll and Slum Sanitation Programme Stage-II (SSP-II) in Mumbai.